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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Donald J. Merkley et al.

Application No.: 09/970,389

Filing Date: October 2, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1791

Examiner: Mark Halpern

Confirmation No.: 9683

For: Method and Apparatus for Reducing Impurities in Cellulose

Fibers for Manufacture of Fiber Reinforced Cement Composite

Materials

VIA EFS-Web Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this response to an Office Action mailed on February 23, 2010. The response is considered timely filed within the one-month shortened statutory period for reply.

In view of the amendments and remarks provided herewith, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment and requests allowance of claims pending in their Application for patent. Applicants believe that no additional search is required on the part of the Examiner.

Provided for consideration with the above-identified Application are:

Amendments to the Claims reflected in the Listing of Claims that begin on page 2;

Remarks that begin on page 7; and

Conclusion that begins on page 8 of this paper.